

REMARKS

The Present Invention

The present invention pertains to isolated immunogenic peptides, compositions thereof, and methods of using the same.

The Pending Claims

Claims 100, 102, 103, and 107-164 are pending. Claims 100, 102, 103, 107-115, and 138-142 are directed to isolated immunogenic peptides, claims 116, 117, 143, and 144 are directed to compositions comprising the same, and claims 118-137 and 145-164 are directed to methods of using the compositions.

Amendments to the Claims

Claims 165-191 have been cancelled. Applicants reserve the right to pursue any canceled subject matter in a continuation, continuation-in-part, divisional, or other application. Cancellation of any subject matter should not be construed as abandonment of that subject matter.

Claim 138 has been amended to delete all recitations of the term "derivative." Claim 138 has been further amended to not read on claim 100 and is now in independent claim format. Claim 138 also has been amended to recite an isolated immunogenic peptide consisting of a portion of SEQ ID NO: 39 which comprises at least 9 contiguous amino acids from amino acids 56-70 or from amino acids 448-462 of SEQ ID NO: 39, wherein said portion comprises an amino acid substitution of the at least 9 amino acids, with at least one amino acid substitution selected from the group consisting of: (i) A63V; (ii) D456V; (iii) I58F; (iv) I58V; (v) L60F; (vi) L60Q; (vii) Y449F; and (viii) Y449Q, wherein said peptide is about 9 to about 34 amino acids in length, and is recognized by a CD4⁺ T lymphocyte, which is restricted by a MHC Class II molecule. This amendment is supported by the specification at, for instance, Figure 4 and Figures 6-12. Claims 139-144 have been amended in view of the amendments to claim 138. Namely, all recitations of the term "derivative" have been replaced with "isolated immunogenic peptide." No new matter has been added by way of the amendments.

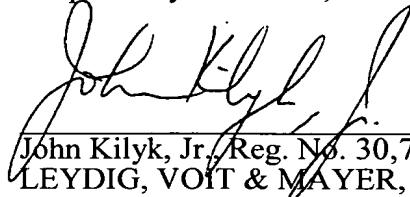
Conclusion

The application is considered to be in good and proper form for allowance, and the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue. If, in the opinion of the

In re Appln. of Topalian et al.
Application No. 08/533,895

Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application,
the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



John Kilyk, Jr., Reg. No. 30,763
LEYDIG, VOIT & MAYER, LTD.
Two Prudential Plaza, Suite 4900
180 North Stetson
Chicago, Illinois 60601-6780
(312) 616-5600 (telephone)
(312) 616-5700 (facsimile)

Date: January 13, 2004

\\Clients\NIB\Amd 219490 amd - supp amd 2.doc